

The Ransburg YMCA facility, which seeks to strengthen the mental, physical and spiritual well-being of its members, is a cornerstone on the Indianapolis Eastside that has responded to the critical social needs of its residents for decades. The legacy of this community center is as diverse as its 9,500 members, touching the lives of individuals of every age and background.

In addition to promoting better health and wellness, the Ransburg YMCA has provided an environment for families and for individuals to build strong bonds to become dynamic and engaged citizens. Through its child outreach programs, this YMCA has sought to reinforce positive values and foster the commitment for community service amongst children.

It is important to mention that the Ransburg YMCA would not have reached this milestone without its dedicated staff, volunteers and community members. I would like to salute them for the hard work and support that made this milestone possible.

I ask my colleagues to join me congratulating the Harper J. Ransburg YMCA as it celebrates its 50th anniversary and hope that the next 50 years bring this center, and the Indianapolis Eastside community, continued success.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I submit documentation consistent with the Republican Earmark Standards.

Requesting Member: Congressman JOE BARTON

Bill Number: H.R. 2996—FY10 Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill

Account: Capital Improvement and Maintenance (construction)

Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Davy Crockett National Forest

Address of Receiving Entity: 18551 State Highway 7 East, Kennard, TX 75847-7207

Description of Request: I have secured \$475,000 in funding in H.R. 2996 in the Capital Improvement and Maintenance account for the Davy Crockett National Forest.

The funding would be used for developing a detailed site plan, redesigning and upgrading the camping loops, utilities, control systems, facilities, road and parking improvements as well as repairing the historic Dam and spillway.

#### HONORING THE MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD AT THE DISABLED VETERANS REST CAMP, MARINE ON SAINT CROIX, MINNESOTA

#### HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, those who return home after serving our Nation, often changed and scarred by their experi-

ences, deserve special recognition and honor. The Disabled Veterans Rest Camp at Marine on St. Croix provides a sanctuary and gathering place for veterans and their families to connect and heal with one another. I rise today, Madame Speaker, to honor the members of the Minnesota National Guard who have spent the past weeks helping to restore the Disabled Veterans Rest Camp so military families from across the Nation can continue to enjoy its tranquility.

For the last several weeks, the Guard has volunteered their time and engineering expertise as part of their training to restore buildings, update facilities and address the needs that come with a nearly century-old campsite. I applaud these Guardsmen and women for giving back to their fellow uniformed service members. I also want to thank our Croatian allies that are sharing in this joint deployment with the Minnesota Guard. We are very grateful that they are able and willing to help our American veterans.

The site started as a camp for World War I disabled veterans in 1926 and has seen expansion and contraction over the years. I first became familiar with it as a State Senator when it faced potential demise in 2005—a fate I was proud to have had at least a small hand in defeating. Maintaining this camp—which has a treasured place in my heart, as do the veterans it serves—as a place for disabled veterans to call their own is one of my proudest moments in my public service career.

A board of representatives from veterans' organizations runs the site and is actively involved in preserving the purpose of the camp. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Minnesota Guard for paying it forward to the men and women who have sacrificed so much for our country. The tireless hours they have given at the Veterans Rest Camp are just one representation of our duty to our veterans—to serve them with gratitude and respect. We should all take these citizen-soldiers' example to heart each day, as we live in a free and prosperous land and owe it all to our veterans.

#### CELEBRATING THE LOS ANGELES LAKERS 2009 NBA CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution "Celebrating the Los Angeles Lakers 2009 NBA Championship". This legislation will commemorate the Los Angeles Lakers 15th National Basketball Association Championship. Prior to the 2008–2009 season, the Lakers won 14 National Basketball Association (NBA) championships, with a cast of Hall of Fame players and coaches, which included NBA greats such as Jerry West, Wilt Chamberlain, Earvin "Magic" Johnson, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Shaquille O'Neal, Pat Riley, and current head coach Phil Jackson.

This season Kobe Bryant, Lamar Odom, Derek Fisher, and Pau Gasol led the 2008–2009 Lakers to a 65–17 regular season record and the #1 spot in the Western Conference Playoffs. The Lakers entered the NBA playoffs with home court advantage as a result of the team's regular season performance. In the first

round the Lakers defeated the Utah Jazz in 5 games to advance to the Western Conference semifinals. The Lakers then faced the Houston Rockets in the Western Conference semifinals, winning in 7 games; advancing to the Western Conference Finals where they faced the Denver Nuggets.

The Lakers clinched the Western Conference finals in 6 games, thanks to the outstanding play by Pau Gasol and Kobe Bryant, which closed out the series. In the NBA Finals, the Lakers matched up with the Orlando Magic, led by Dwight Howard. The Lakers won the first 2 games of the finals in Los Angeles, including a hard-fought Game 2 during which Kobe Bryant scored 31 points and played all but 8 minutes of the game. The Lakers followed their loss in Game 3, by winning the next two games in Orlando to win the 2009 NBA Championship.

For his outstanding play during the NBA Finals, Lakers' guard Kobe Bryant was presented with the Bill Russell NBA Finals Most Valuable Player Award; and his fourth NBA Championship. Lakers head coach Phil Jackson, won his 10th NBA Championship as a head coach and his 12th NBA Championship overall. Congratulations to the Lakers players, coaches, and staff on winning the 2008–2009 NBA Championship.

#### HONORING CITY OF OAKLAND PARK

#### HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 24, 2009*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the 80th anniversary of the City of Oakland Park in Florida's 20th Congressional District.

This once sleepy little town that was home to mostly farmers is now a bustling city with more than 43,000 residents.

Oakland Park is one of the older municipalities in Broward County. In fact, it was originally chartered as the town of Floranada in 1925.

But in September 1926 a hurricane devastated the area. In 1929, city leaders renamed it Oakland Park after the massive oaks that lined the community.

Residents and visitors can tour a piece of history always on display in this fine city. A portion of its oldest elementary school, Oakland Park Elementary School, is a nationally registered historical site. The school was built in 1927 and is the oldest school in continuous operation in Broward County.

The city is also at the forefront of innovation in Florida. It was the first municipality in the state to organize a public safety department. Oakland Park was also the first City to initiate a recycling program.

Madam Speaker, I thank Mayor Steven Arnst, the Members of the City Commission, and the city's staff for their many accomplishments that have made the City of Oakland Park a wonderful place to live, work and raise a family.